Our life saver was the idea of the formation of local chapters with local administration, with only token control by the parent group. This stimulated competition between chapters and has also gained us a lot of members-at-large. If you would care to look over our Constitution and By-Laws, I will be pleased to send them.

Our first consideration of a new variety for registration by the Society is vigor of growth and freedom of bloom. Of course, a number have slipped by on account of unusual form or coloration, but generally, these die a quick death in commercial channels and so are lost. Our conditions here will not permit a weak plant.

I have in my collection Nagao #23 and Nagao #20. Are these familiar to you? They came to me thru Ross Gast in California. They are yet small and have not bloomed, but the vigor appears exceptional.

We took a terrific blow last winter and many fine collections, among them mine, were practically wiped out. I am trying to start over with all new varieties. The ones sent by Mr. Jones sound interesting and I had 100% success with the grafts. I have already distributed extra plants to other collectors.

If you will advise me which varieties from us are now in your collection, I will be pleased to send others as they are available. I will also appreciate cuttings of anything that appears to be worthy, especially in size of bloom and coloration.

My work is with the State Highway Department, with headquarters in Bartow. I travel state-wide, so have a chance to visit with collectors and hybridizers that few people enjoy. Since we have members in nearly every town of any size, I am never too far from someone who grows hibiscus.

Our shows are all fine and with so many attending from all over, a new variety that is good, is

quickly spotted and soon is available. Due to ease of propagation, nothing is exclusive for very long. This makes it hard for an originator to cash in on something new but it does help the cause of hibiscus.

We will soon have out a new nomenclature list which you will receive. It will describe about 700 varieties which are available commercially. You will note many of your best Hawaiian names on the list. Any corrections that you care to make, or any additions you think are inorder, will be carried in future revisions.

With your permission, we would like to publish your letter in our bulletin. You may then expect to get several replies. We would also like to have any short articles that you would care to write on hibiscus in Hawaii. This would be of great interest to our readers.

Please excuse my typing and let us hear from you when you have the time.

L. K. Thompson
President, American Hibiscus Society
P. O. Box 92
Bartow, Florida

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Dear Mrs. Calais:

The grafting wood is indeed appreciated. It came in fine shape, and although arriving unexpectedly, the fact that it arrived on a Saturday noon made it just perfect. I was low on rooting stock, but two or three friends of mine came through. Most of the grafts are doing fine especially Mother's Day, Merritt Island Beauty, Rosemary Smathers and Miss Sallie. Two or three I might lose for we had over 11 inches of rain in February and I suspect some moisture may